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OLC 71-1015

27 September 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Pending Legislation Affecting Agency
Operations in Laos

1. Here is a rundown, which I promised you this morning, on pending bills and amendments which could have a significant effect on our operations in Laos:

a. Amendment No. 160 (Symington) to the Defense Procurement Authorization Act:

(1) Limits FY 1972 expenditures for Laos to excluding air operations in the Trail area.

(2) Requires quarterly reports to Congress on the total amount and purpose of expenditures for Laos.

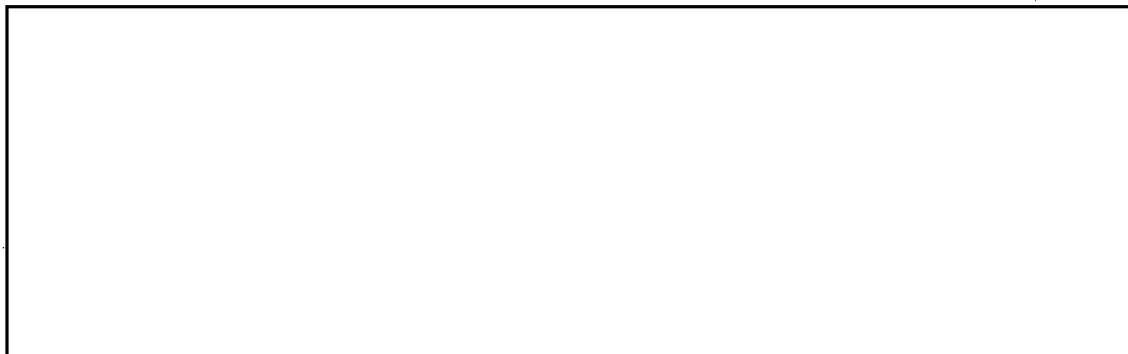
(3) After 30 June 1972, requires specific congressional authorization for any expenditures for Laos.

b. S. 2252 (Case) would require that the value of military equipment transferred to foreign countries be counted against MAP appropriations.

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e. S. 1887 (Church) prohibits the Agency from engaging in paramilitary activities under the authority contained in Section 102(d) of the National Security Act of 1947.

2. It is too soon to predict the prospects for passage of the foregoing legislation, although we understand that Senator Symington plans to press for a dollar ceiling on expenditures in Laos rather than the ban on the Thai irregulars. The Badillo bill (companion to the Church bill) prohibiting CIA involvement in paramilitary operations, has already been defeated in the House.

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Legislative Counsel

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